



Part 4 The Mansion and Grounds



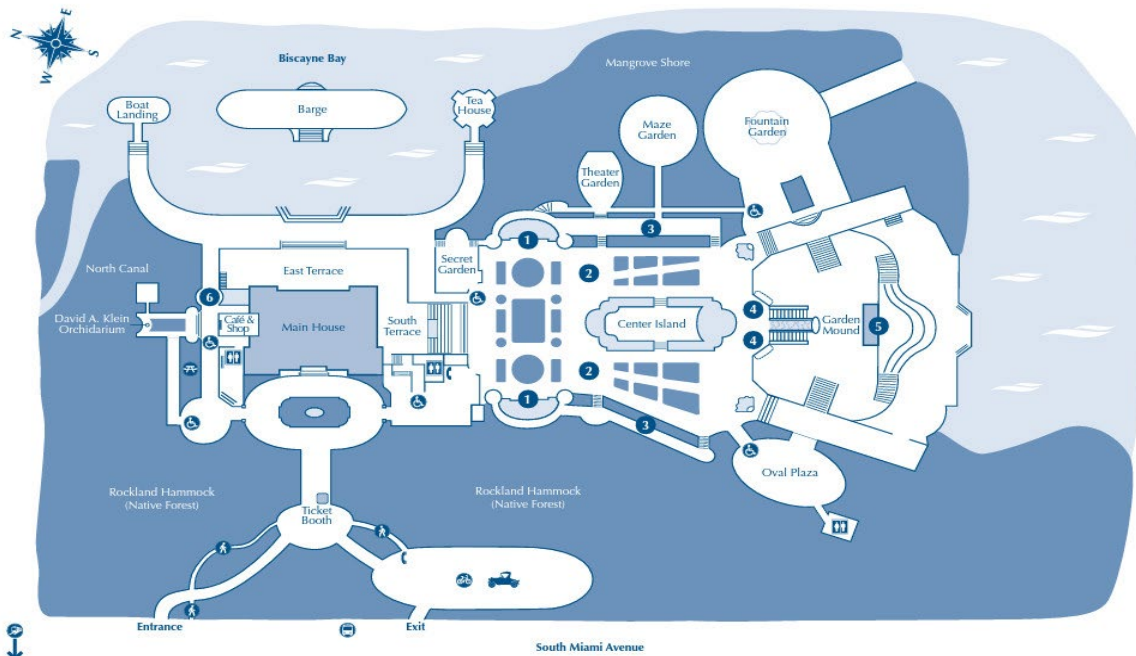
James Deering and Vizcaya

"James Deering (1859–1925) was a retired millionaire and a bachelor in his early fifties when he undertook the challenge to build an elaborate estate in South Florida. He was afflicted with pernicious anemia, a condition for which doctors recommended sunshine and a warm climate: Vizcaya became the place where he hoped to restore his health. He loved sailing and boating—he owned three yachts—and was greatly interested in landscaping and plant conservation. Both hobbies were to play an important role in the design of Vizcaya. The project began modestly, but it grew to become the engrossing pastime of the last years of Deering's life."

"After only nine seasons at Vizcaya, Deering passed away. In 1926, a year after Deering's death, a hurricane greatly damaged much of the house and grounds. Vizcaya passed from Deering's brother, Charles, to his nieces and, in 1950, to Miami Dade County as a public museum" <vizcaya.org>

Vizcaya Architecturally

"Vizcaya Museum and Gardens in Miami, Florida, was constructed in 1914, a Mediterranean Renaissance style with colonnaded loggias on the first and second floor facing an interior courtyard." <evergreene.com> "It took more than 8 years (1914 to 1922) to complete the construction of the massive estate & two years to finish with the designs of the main house. The 34-room palatial house was molded after an 18th-century Italian villa." <ifeeltech.com> "The ten-acre gardens at this private estate were designed for James Deering by Colombian-born landscape architect Diego Suarez, who worked on the project between 1914 and 1917. Suarez, who had studied at Villa la Pietra outside Florence, Italy, adapted classical European Renaissance and Baroque landscape design to Miami's subtropical climate and terrain, using native soil and plant materials in an aesthetic arrangement that evokes sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Italian and French gardens. From 1910 to 1916 the property's original artistic advisor, Paul Chalfin, engaged his penchant for creating intensively detailed decorative elements by integrating into the lush vegetation and flamboyant architecture a collection of outdoor sculpture that showcased extraordinary objects ranging from a second-century Roman altar to twentieth century works commissioned for Vizcaya." <tclf.org>



Florida Hurricanes

They have caused much damage and resulted in sometimes drastic changes needed to restore landscape and buildings, including Vizcaya. "The National Hurricane Center (2021) has recorded 341 major hurricanes in the Atlantic. Of that, 38 major storms have made landfall in the Sunshine State over the course of 170 years. Only 11 of those storms were named as the modern storm-naming system didn't become conventional until the 1950s." <orlandosentinel.com>

This acuri.net photo program shares our tour of Vizcaya in 2022. It shows the dedication and detail in restoring and maintaining this national landmark for generations to come.

Grounds





Vizcaya is the intersection of historic landscapes and urban development in a volatile climate where the preservation of heritage, material culture and architecture, and the conservation of living collections become an increasing challenge.

For over 100 years, Vizcaya has endured Miami's tropical climate along the shoreline of Biscayne Bay. Today, Vizcaya is vulnerable to sea level rise and climate change yet remains resilient.

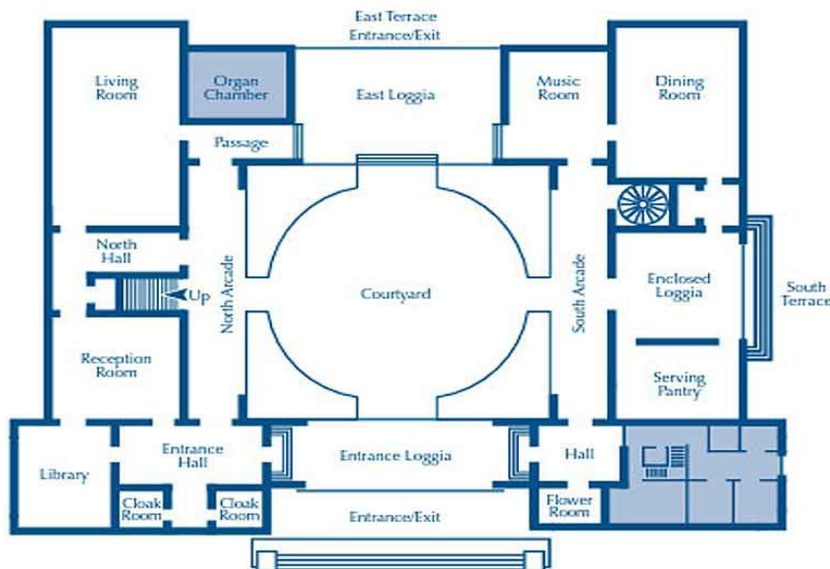
Through the use of 3D modeling and scanning Vizcaya documents its most vulnerable historic assets. The resulting 3D images provide visitors a new opportunity to consider Vizcaya's past, present and future.



Vizcaya's Barge after Hurricane Irma, 2017.
Vizcaya Museum and Gardens Archives

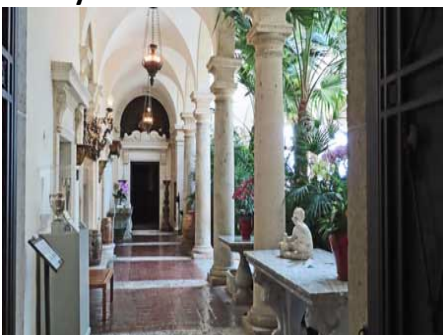


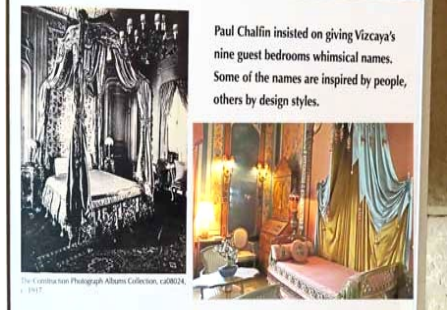
GROUND FLOOR





Courtyard





Deering Sitting Room and Bathroom





Part 1 Overview of Museum and Gardens. Part 2 The Orchids of Vizcaya. Part 3 The Gardens. Part 4 The Mansion and Grounds.

Mansion-Grounds Sources: <https://vizcaya.org/>, <https://vizcaya.org/posts/who-was-james-deering/>, <https://vizcaya.org/collections/main-house/main-house/>, <https://sah-archipedia.org/buildings/FL-01-086-0041>, <https://evergreene.com/projects/vizcaya-architectural-elements/>, <https://www.tclf.org/landscapes/vizcaya-museum-and-gardens>, https://vizcaya.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/VIZ_Visitor-Map_2015_English_cropped.pdf, <https://www.conlab.org/acl/vizc/reports/VIZC%2004%20Orig.%20and%20New%20Drawings.pdf>, <https://www.luxuryproperty.com/vizcaya-museum-and-gardens-an-architectural-wonder-along-the-coast-of-miami>, <https://en-academic.com/dic.nsf/enwiki/1529561>, <https://theculturetrip.com/north-america/usa/florida/articles/history-vizcaya-villas/>, <https://vizcaya.org/posts/whats-in-a-name/>, <https://floridainsider.com/travel/a-brief-history-of-miamis-vizcaya-museum-and-gardens/>, <https://travelexperta.com/vizcaya-museum-gardens-miami-florida/>, <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/vizcaya-museum-and-gardens>, <https://ifeeltech.com/vizcaya-museum-and-gardens/>, <https://www.miamiscapes.com/vizcaya-museum-and-gardens.html> and <https://www.miamiandbeaches.com/thing-to-do/attractions/vizcaya-museum-and-gardens/2025>.

Hurricanes Impact on Vizcaya Sources: <https://vizcaya.org/posts/apt-bulletin-features-vizcayas-experience-with-hurricane-irma/>, <https://www.local10.com/news/local/2021/04/27/vizcaya-museum-unveils-new-flood-mitigation-system-ahead-of-hurricane-season/>, <https://evergreene.com/projects/vizcaya-museum-hurricane/>, <https://www.orlandosentinel.com/weather/hurricane/os-prem-ne-hurricane-facts-how-many-major-hurricanes-have-hit-florida-20210125-hg42vt4lorcn3gqvslwnu254u-story.html>, <https://evergreene.com/projects/vizcaya-museum-hurricane/>, <https://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/hurricane-impacts/>, and https://www.flsenate.gov/PublishedContent/Session/FiscalYear/FY2018-19/LocalFundingInitiativeRequests/FY2018-19_S2307.PDF.

acuri.net John R. Vincenti Miami, Florida Vizcaya Mansion and Grounds